

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 are pending. Each is independent. The claims have been amended to define the invention more precisely, and it is respectfully submitted that they are clearly patentable.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by a US patent to Sommers et al. No. 5,940,076 ("Sommers").

Sommers improves on a conventional scroll or page up/down function by providing a display window 68 opening onto a simulated spinning wheel (Figs. 4 and 5). The patent explains at 5:44-63:

The process starts with display screen 602 which shows the presentation of the three presently available applications (Read 402, Write 404 and Addresses 406) available to the user which are displayed within the user selectable fields 422-428. If the user wants to select amongst one of the presently displayed applications, he simply presses the up/down arrows on user control 302 until the desired application is highlighted, then the user can select the application by depressing another user control. If the user however does not want to activate any of these three presently displayed applications, the user by pressing the down arrow (or up arrow in another example), will be able to navigate to the next available set of application (option) fields which are currently off-screen. If the currently highlighted field is field 422 pressing the up arrow will cause the animation process to commence. If the currently highlighted field is field 426, pressing the down arrow will cause the animation process to commence. Upon the user activating the user control 302 one or more times, the "wheel spin" animation process is begun as shown by arrow 620.

The Office Action states on page 3 (erroneously, as indicated below) that certain recitations in the claims are met by Sommers. As to claim 1, the Office Action notes the recitation: "said display control means causing, when an option not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with said selected option in said display unit and performing a display so as to include said selected option when displaying said original selection screen next"; as to claim 2, the Office Action notes the recitation: "said display control means causing, when an option not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with said selected option in said display unit and causing display of information indicating said selected option when displaying said original selection screen next." According to the Office Action, these recitations are met by Fig. 7 of Sommers and the following disclosure at 6:57-58: "Upon the device user selecting a feature/option which is not currently being displayed on the display screen 68, the draw buffer information is copied into the animation buffer."

But Fig. 7 and the passage at 6:57-58 of Sommers do not disclose that when an option not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with the selected option is caused by display control means, as specified by applicant's claims. Although copying the draw buffer into the animation buffer causes the feature/option which has not been displayed to be displayed, it does not cause display of a screen associated with the feature/option which has not been displayed.

Furthermore, Fig. 7 and the passage at 6:57-58 of Sommers do not disclose “performing a display so as to include said selected option when displaying said original selection screen next,” as specified in claim 1, or causing display of information indicating said selected option when displaying said original selection screen next,” as specified in claim 2.

We refer to the following passages at pages 33 and 34, respectively, of the application:

On the other hand, assume that the information displaying screen (2G) shown in Fig. 33B is displayed by operating the 6 key of the ten-key pad 161 in a state where the first page (1a) of the first layer is displayed as shown in Fig. 33A. If the clear key 182 is operated in this state, the second page (1b) of the first layer including the option 6 shown in Fig. 32C is displayed, since the option 6 was not displayed in the first page (1a) of the first layer.

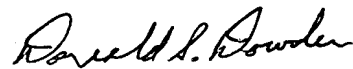
* * *

If the clear key 182 is operated after the selection screen (2i) of menu 6 associated with the option 6 is displayed by operating the 6 key of the ten-key pad 161 in the first page (1h) in which the option 6 is not displayed as shown in Figs. 34A to 34C, the selection screen (1j) including the option 6 at which the cursor is located is displayed.

In the present invention, the control display means causes, when an option (6) not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with the selected option (6) in the display unit, and performs a display so as to include the selected option (6) when displaying the original selection screen next by operating a clear key (182), as shown in Fig. 33; or the control display means causes, when an option (6) not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with the selected option (6) in the display unit, and causes display of information indicating the selected option when displaying the original selection screen next by operating a clear key (182), as shown in Fig. 34.

Since the rejection is inapplicable to the claims as resubmitted, it should be withdrawn. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter the amendment as requiring no further search and issue a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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